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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 2, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RAY LAHOOD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, in ancient days as armies gathered and You stood in the midst of war, You called forth Jeremiah and named him Your prophet. Be with Your people now and give the leaders of government prophetic wisdom to make right judgments and be discerning in lasting justice.

Attune our hearts that we may hear Jeremiah's calling as spoken to us today; that seeing with the eyes of his vision we may make Your will our own.

"The Word of the Lord came to me: Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you as my very own; before you were born, I consecrated you. I appointed you prophet to the nations."

Lord God, before You, as individuals and as a Nation, we are summoned now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCNULTY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 704. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the amount of the death gratuity payable with respect to deceased members of the Armed Forces.

S. 711. An act to amend title 37, United States Code, to alleviate delay in the payment of the Selected Reserve reenlistment bonus to members of Selected Reserve who are mobilized.

S. 712. An act to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide Survivor Benefit Plan annuities for surviving spouses of Reserves not eligible for retirement who die from a cause incurred or aggravated while on inactive-duty training.

S. 718. An act to provide a monthly allotment of free telephone calling time to members of the United States armed forces stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 10 one-minutes per side.

CONCERNING IRAQ'S TREATMENT OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR

(Mr. RYUN of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, it is said that you can judge a government by the way it treats the weak. In recent days we have all seen the images of American GIs holding Iraqi children, rushing them out of harm's way. We currently hold thousands of Iraqi prisoners of war. We are treating them humanely, giving them food and water. We will openly welcome the International Red Cross to monitor the health and well-being of these prisoners. We demand nothing less from the Iraqi regime in its treatment of our seven American POWs.

Looking back to the first Gulf War, we remember that our POWs were subject to mock executions, beatings and public humiliation. Let the Iraqi military be warned: America will hold those responsible who mistreat any American service man or woman regardless of the orders they may have received from above.

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO LOU DINUZZO OF WATERVLIET, NEW YORK

(Mr. MCNULTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCNULTY. Mr. Speaker, during this time of war, our thoughts are constantly with our active duty military personnel overseas, and also with all of the men and women who wore the uniform of the United States military through the years. One of those veterans is my friend Lou DiNuzzo of Watervliet, New York, an Air Force lieutenant during World War II. Thankfully Lou returned home safely, and with his wife Edna raised a beautiful

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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family to carry on in their fine traditions. Lou rendered outstanding community service for many years as a member of the Watervliet City Council, and for the past 15 years has served as an unpaid volunteer in my Albany congressional office. Lately, Mr. Speaker, Lou DiNuzzo has faced very serious health challenges. He has met those challenges with the same courage and grace with which he has faced all of the other challenges in his life.

Members have heard me many times on this floor say that my first two priorities when I get up in the morning are to thank God for my life and veterans for my way of life. Mr. Speaker, when I said my morning prayers today, I was thankful for a great many things, but first and foremost on this day I am grateful that Lou DiNuzzo is my friend.

AT&T PLAYS D.C. REGULATORY GAME

(Mr. BONILLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, I am very worried about one of the greatest assaults that is currently underway against America's telecommunications industry. We have seen some remarkable changes in the past 5 years with the growth of wireless technology and the Internet, but what about the future?

Today we are not seeing America's telecom companies making investments in their products and services. We are not seeing companies hire new people and training them. We are not seeing healthy competition between companies. What we are seeing day after day in the telecom industry are attack ads from AT&T trying to stifle competition for their own benefit.

These are very difficult times for American business. One would think that in this current environment, every major corporation would be focused on their people, their products and their future; but sadly you cannot open a newspaper, turn on a radio or watch television without being bombarded by these negative ads that are being run under disguise and being run by a bogus group called Voices for Choices.

Why in the world would AT&T be running these millions of dollars in ads in Washington, D.C.? They do not promote any products, service, or any kind of private sector growth.

My conclusion is that after seeing these ads that AT&T believes that their future relies on Washington and regulation. I hope the Chamber recognizes that these ads are just bogus and they are an attempt to play the D.C. regulatory game. This game is ruining the telecommunications industry. We must not be fooled by the tactics of those companies that feel that playing games is more important than focusing on legitimate business.

COMMENDING MARQUETTE'S TRIP TO THE 2003 FINAL FOUR

(Mr. KLECZKA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Marquette University men's basketball team for their sensational season this year, one that will not soon be forgotten. With Coach Tom Crean at the helm and players like Dwayne Wade, Travis Diener, Robert Jackson and Steve Novak patrolling the hardwood, Marquette has enjoyed a remarkable year and has earned a well-deserved berth in the NCAA Final Four.

Now that the Golden Eagles have a chance to win their first championship since 1977, when Al McGuire was coaching them and the team was named the Warriors, only the Kansas Jayhawks stand in their way of reaching the title game.

To demonstrate my utmost confidence in Marquette, Mr. Speaker, I made a friendly wager with the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) that the Golden Eagles will beat the Jayhawks in the national semifinals. I am putting Wisconsin bratwurst, an assortment of Wisconsin's finest cheeses and a case of Milwaukee-brewed Sprecher root beer on the line. It is too bad my friend from Kansas will not get the opportunity to enjoy them, for I look forward to a wonderful feast of his two slabs of Kansas pork ribs and a jug of Kansas barbecue sauce when Marquette knocks off Kansas to advance to the national championship game.

Mr. Speaker and Members, I join with the entire Marquette community in wishing the Golden Eagles Godspeed and a great victory this Saturday.

MEET CHEMICAL ALI

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, the record of evil compiled by Saddam Hussein and his sons Uday and Qusay is well known. Less well known is the record of his closest adviser. Meet Ali Hasan al-Majid al-Tikriti, better known as Chemical Ali. Chemical Ali is the enforcer of the regime. His presence signals Saddam's most vicious intent. While he was governor of the, quote, Kuwait Province in 1990, he implemented a program to "Iraqify" Kuwait through the arrest, torture and execution of Kuwaiti police, military officers and resistance members. In the years since, he has brutally suppressed uprisings by Iraqis in the north and in the south. In 1991 he appeared on Iraqi television, beating, kicking and executing Iraqi opposition prisoners.

Ali earned the name "Chemical Ali" because of his tenure as director of the Mukhabarat, the Iraqi Intelligence Service. On March 16, 1988, he ordered

the use of chemical weapons against the civilians of Halabja, resulting in the deaths of over 5,000 innocent men, women and children.

Meet Lieutenant General Ali Hasan, a symbol of why the allies fight this war. Removing documented war criminals like this man from positions of power is the right thing to do both for the oppressed people of Iraq and for our global stability.

PORT SECURITY

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the importance of adequate security at our Nation's ports. On Monday, President Bush visited the Port of Philadelphia to praise our Coast Guard on their increased role at ports and to promote new security under Operation Liberty Shield. However, during this visit, the President failed to mention that the Coast Guard has reported receiving only a fraction of the resources they need to secure these ports, or that the President did not ask for any future port grant funding in either the supplemental spending bill or his fiscal 2004 budget request, no funding to fill in the gaping holes in our port security needs.

Just outside of my district, are two ports, the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach. Last year, an estimated 4 million cargo containers passed through those ports, 35 percent of all U.S. international trade. Less than 4 percent of those containers were screened. Our ports of entry are some of the most vulnerable threat risks in our Nation and we need to provide the means and the resources necessary for adequate security.

THE UNITED NATIONS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, last week U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan expressed his concern for Iraqi civilians during coalition military operations. I share his concern but want to know what he says about Iraq's treatment of civilians. American troops risk their lives to avoid civilian casualties. Saddam Hussein has surrounded himself and his troops with innocent civilians because he knows this is the only way to slow our advance through Iraq. What has Mr. Annan said about Hussein's use of human shields, or of hospitals as military headquarters? Nothing. While American troops are under extreme scrutiny, Saddam Hussein draws none from the United Nations.

The lack of scrutiny during wartime is the same complacency employed by the U.N. since 1991. We should not be surprised but we should keep it in mind